

## News Release

# Senior Lhakpa Gurung Named 2010 SEED Award Recipient

By Itollefts on Wednesday, November 17, 2010

The University of Minnesota undergraduate Scholarly Excellence in Equity and Diversity (SEED) Awards program honors outstanding diverse undergraduate students. The Crookston campus is pleased to announce Senior Lhakpa Gurung, Mustang, Nepal, as a 2010 SEED Award recipient. The awards are presented annually at the University of Minnesota Equity and Diversity Breakfast, held November 18.

Lhakpa Gurung has been a leader on the Crookston campus in advocating and supporting the campus diversity program. She has reached out to members of the campus and the Crookston community to share her story and to raise awareness and understanding of the importance of being a role model for women of color in teaching, research and entrepreneurship. She also recently received the 2010 Tapestry Award from the University's University Women of Color.



As an early childhood education major, Gurung aspires to work with children and families of diverse backgrounds and needs, and international issues regarding equity for children and their families. She has been very involved as a student on the campus serving as a community advisor for residential life and integrating diversity activities to spur discussion on issues relating to diversity and women's issues. She has also presented at various women's groups in the community, on campus, anf through Minnesota Extension in order to encourage dialogue on the importance of having women of color as role models in teaching, research, and business.

Gurung was involved in two undergraduate research projects and presented at an Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) showcase at both Crookston and Twin Cities campuses. In the summer of 2010, she went back to Nepal to her village to teach young children about the economic and societal importance of agriculture, the basics of capitalism, and how entrepreneurs add value to the marketplace. Students in Free Enterprise advisor Kenneth Johnson is proud of Gurung and her accomplishments. "Her work ethic, enthusiasm, and performance in completing this project was phenomenal," Johnson says. "She has been an integral part of the success of our eleven-time regional championship SIFE team."

Undergraduate SEED Award recipients are diverse students who demonstrate impressive achievement and leadership in the area(s) of academic performance and/or community outreach/activism. In addition, SEED Award recipients must demonstrate a deep understanding of and commitment to issues of equity, diversity, and social justice through their academic work and/or service to the community. For more information, visit [www.academic.umn.edu/equity/awards/seed\\_awards.html](http://www.academic.umn.edu/equity/awards/seed_awards.html).

Today the University of Minnesota, Crookston delivers 29 bachelor's degree programs, 18 minors, and more than 40 concentrations, including several online degrees, in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of about 1,400 undergraduates from more than 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit [www.umcrookston.edu](http://www.umcrookston.edu).

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